



Uptick momentum

Major industrial firms' profit decline narrowed in October

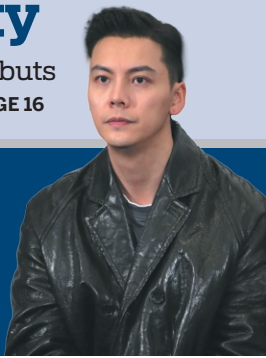
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US' hefty tariffs set to harm all parties involved

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Gaining popularity

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XI'S VISION | MAJOR COUNTRY DIPLOMACY

China's sense of responsibility wins applause

Approach to foreign affairs aims for global community of shared future

By ZHANG YUNBI
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As President Xi Jinping wrapped up his trip to Latin America last week, observers noted that the year 2024 has been special for marking the 10th anniversaries of a range of landmark events, such as China's hosting of the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Beijing and the founding of the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Following these memorable moments, Thursday also marks the 10th anniversary of another landmark event in China's foreign policy history — Xi's proposing of the idea of major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

Many scholars and officials have been impressed by how Beijing has showcased distinct Chinese characteristics, style and ethos in its diplomacy, and how it has been working on building the image of a confident, self-reliant, open and inclusive major country with a global vision over the past 10 years.

In the eyes of Keith Bennett, a London-based senior analyst on international relations and co-editor of the Friends of Socialist China platform, the Chinese characteristics of the country's major country diplomacy include a number of components, such as the country's commitment to peace, dialogue, equality, mutual respect, noninterference and win-win cooperation.

"The Chinese policies are not based solely on the narrow national interest, or interest at the expense of other countries", but instead have a global vision and "are for the benefit of all of humanity," he said.

On Nov 28, 2014, Xi stated in his speech at the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs that China "must have a major country diplomacy with its own characteristics".

In March 2016, the concept of major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics was for the first time clearly stated in the annual Government Work Report.

Analysts said the concept has been developed in the past decade and has seen its theoretical architecture greatly taking shape and its supporting pillars being built.

The Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs held in December last year identified the theme of China's external work as building a community with a shared future for mankind, which is also the noble goal pursued by China in conducting major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

The conference decided that the current and future work on foreign affairs should follow the principles of "self-confidence and self-reliance, openness and inclusiveness, fairness and justice, and win-win cooperation" — the guidelines of major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

"The concept helps to explain the definition and the underlying logic of China's diplomacy," said Chen Xulong, a professor of multilateral diplomacy and United Nations' reform studies at the University of International Business and Economics.

The concept calls for the country to act as a major country should, shoulder its duties, meet the challenges, and make contributions to global governance, he said.

"A range of outstanding, distinct qualities of Chinese culture have been endorsed by this concept, including the consistent pursuit of a peaceful rise, objecting to hegemony and subscribing to innovation," he added.

In an article published in January in Qiushi Journal, the flagship magazine of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, Foreign Minister Wang Yi wrote that "major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era builds on and carries forward New China's diplomacy".

"China has become a responsible major country with enhanced international influence, stronger capacity to steer new endeavors and greater moral appeal," he wrote.

"Head-of-state diplomacy has played an important and irreplaceable role in major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era", he added.

At a bilateral meeting with Xi on the sidelines of the 31st APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Lima, Peru, on Nov 15, Chilean President Gabriel Boric brought a copy of the fourth volume of *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China*, one of Xi's books.

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Xi calls for bringing question of Palestine back to right track

By MO JINGXI
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President Xi Jinping reiterated on Tuesday China's commitment to working with the international community to end the war, stop the killing and bring the question of Palestine back to the right track of the two-state solution to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement at an early date.

He also said that China will continue to support the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East in continuing to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza.

Xi made the remarks in a message sent to a UN meeting in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People this

year, amid raging conflicts in the Middle East. The Chinese president has sent messages to this meeting for 12 consecutive years.

The event, usually observed by the UN on or around Nov 29 each year, provides an opportunity for the international community to focus its attention on the fact that the question of Palestine remains unresolved.

This year's commemoration is especially painful, as the fundamental goals of the Palestinian people's dignity, rights, justice and self-determination remain as distant as ever, with more than 44,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, reportedly killed in the past 400 days.

China always stands on the side of fairness and justice on the Palestinian

question and has provided several batches of assistance to Gaza since the latest round of conflict broke out in October last year.

Noting that the question of Palestine is at the heart of the Middle East issue and concerns international fairness and justice, Xi said in his message that the pressing task is to comprehensively and effectively implement the relevant UN Security Council resolutions to end the war as soon as possible and ease the regional situation.

The fundamental way out is to implement the two-state solution and promote the political settlement of the question of Palestine, establish an independent Palestinian state enjoying full sovereignty on the basis of the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital, and

ensure the right of the Palestinian people to statehood, their right to existence and their right of return, he said.

He stressed that China has always been a staunch supporter of the just cause of the Palestinian people to restore their legitimate national rights, and has always supported all Palestinian factions in strengthening unity and implementing the Beijing Declaration on Ending Division and Strengthening Palestinian National Unity to realize internal reconciliation.

Xi also said in the message that China firmly supports Palestine in becoming a full UN member and supports the convening of a more broad-based, more authoritative and more effective international peace conference.

Long-awaited peace



A man returning to his village waves as he carries his belongings on his car in Tyre, southern Lebanon, on Wednesday after the start of the cease-fire between Hezbollah and Israel. The Israeli Cabinet on Tuesday night approved the cease-fire deal, which is expected to pave the way for an end to a nearly 14-month conflict tied in great part to the ongoing one in the Gaza Strip. HUSSEIN MALLA / AP **See story, page 11**

Nation's resolve to remain firm in fighting desertification

By YAN DONGJIE
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Although considerable achievements have already been made in the fight against desertification, China's top forest and grassland management body has pledged to remain vigilant and committed to the global struggle with shifting sands.

"As a global model for desertification control, we will thoroughly implement President Xi Jinping's important initiative to improve global ecological governance and

build an eco-friendly world economy, extensively engage in international exchanges and cooperation, implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, continue to contribute Chinese wisdom, and promote global environmental governance and protection," said Guan Zhi'ou, director of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, in a recent interview with China Daily.

China's efforts in holding back its deserts date back more than 50 years, and the nation has achieved zero net growth in land

degradation, as well as a reduction in desertification and sandy land, Guan said. China is willing to share its experience in combating desertification with other countries, the official added.

In 1978, China launched the Three-North Shelterbelt Forest Program, which has a planned duration of 73 years. China joined the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in 1994 as one of its first signatories.

In June last year, President Xi issued a call for action to tackle the critical challenges of the program

and strive to create new miracles in desertification control in the new era. This marked a historic new phase in China's efforts to combat desertification.

Over the past 46 years, the forest coverage rate in the project area has increased from just over 5 percent to 13.84 percent, creating a vast green barrier in northern China, Guan said.

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Display of ethnic unity



Members of the Fujian provincial delegation to the 12th National Traditional Games of Ethnic Minorities dance during a gala in Sanya, Hainan province, on Tuesday. The gala, which was held to celebrate the sports event, showcased the nation's rich cultural diversity and ethnic unity. The event started on Nov 20 and is scheduled to run through Saturday.

WEI XIAOHAO / CHINA DAILY **See story, page 4**

VETERAN ARTIST OFFERS AMATEURS CHANCE TO SHINE

Beijing's Xiao Ke Theater opens free training program; winners to perform in 15 shows

By CHEN NAN
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It's not every day that Yu Jinhao, a 43-year-old corporate leader who lives and works in Tianjin, finds himself standing in front of a crowd of strangers, crouching low, arms dangling by his side, and hopping across a stage while scratching his head and emitting monkey grunts.



Before the laughter subsides, he has transitioned again, this time into a crocodile lying flat on the ground and snapping imaginary jaws with exaggerated ferocity. His voice deepens as he growls,

sending a ripple of surprise through the audience.

Finally, he curls up, and wiggles like an earthworm, his body undulating awkwardly.

He straightens up, his face flushed, smooths out the crumples in his pants, and says with a shy grin: "I released my inner animals and now it is your turn."

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